

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
FOR THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of Rapids Power
LLC for a Certificate of Need for its Grand
Rapids Cogeneration Project.

**ORDER SCHEDULING PREHEARING
CONFERENCE**

On November 19, 2001, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission issued its Order Accepting Filing as Substantially Complete and Notice and Order for Hearing. The commission ordered that a prehearing conference be held "as soon as practical after January 1, 2002."

A prehearing conference in this matter will be held on **Wednesday, January 16, 2002, at 9:30 a.m.** in the Commission's small hearing room. Persons unable to attend in person will be accommodated by telephone. However, there are only a limited number of persons who can be accommodated by telephone, so like-minded groups of citizens or others should agree on one or two persons as their representatives to participate in the conference. These representatives may obtain instructions for participating in the conference by telephoning the Administrative Law Judge at (612) 341-7609 anytime prior to January 16.

The purpose of the prehearing conference will be to discuss scheduling, discovery procedures, prefiled testimony, and similar planning matters.

So far, the only formal parties to the case are Rapids Power and the Department of Commerce. Persons need not be formal parties in order to participate in the prehearing conference. However, concerned individuals should begin aligning themselves with like-minded persons and consider petitioning to intervene together as a formal party. So far, there is no deadline for petitioning to intervene. But one of the topics for discussion at the prehearing conference will be establishing a deadline for intervention petitions.

ORDER

1. A prehearing conference in this matter will commence at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 16, 2002, in the Commission's small hearing room. The Commission's offices are located at 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101. Persons unable to attend the prehearing conference in person should contact the Administrative Law Judge for instructions on telephonic participation.

Dated this 4th day of Decemberr 2001.

ALLAN W. KLEIN
Administrative Law Judge